MHRD/UGC pay-scales applicable to the teachers of universities and colleges for the scientists of ICAR/teachers of State Agricultural Universities with the concurrence of Ministry of Finance/Department of Personnel & Training. After revision of pay-scales, some representations have been received from the scientists relating to pay anomalies. The matter was taken up with the Ministry of Finance, who have advised to consult Department of Personnel & Training and Ministry of Human Resource Development.

(c) The pay-scales of the scientists of ICAR have already been revised and implemented on the lines of Ministry of Human Resource Development notification for revision of pay-scales of teachers of universities and colleges under UGC.

Cotton yield

3341. DR. A. K. PATEL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken or being taken by Government to increase cotton yield per hectare; and

(b) the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The Government of India has launched Technology Mission on Cotton in February, 2000 to increase the production and yeild of cotton. The Indian Council of Agricultural Research is evolving production technologies, while, the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation is involved in the transfer of technology and developmental activities through the implementation of Intensive Cotton Development Programme under Mini Mission-II of the Technology Mission on Cotton. Under this programme, assistance is given to the States for the transfer of technologies through demonstration and training as well as supply of critical inputs like supply of seeds, sprayers, sprinklers, drip irrigation system, pheromone traps and bio-agents.

(b) The implementation of various activities of the programme helped in increasing the production and yield of cotton in the country which is evident from the following data:—

Year	Production (Lakh bales of 170 Kgs.)	Yield (Kg./hectare)
1997-1998	108.51	208
1998-1999	122.87	224
1999-2000	115.30	225
2000-2001	96.52	191
2001-2002 (Provisional)	119.60	237

Publication of NCERT books under SC order

3342. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court has allowed National Council of Educational Research and Training to publish and sell its revised text books for all the subjects, except Social Sciences and Hindi;

(b) if so, whether the controversy over this issue has been resolved; and

(c) whether the Supreme Court has given any decision about Social Science and Hindi also?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a) The Supreme Court has passed an interim order directing the NCERT and the CBSE not to further implement the curriculum and publish text books related to Social Sciences including History, Religion and Hindi.

(b) and (c) The matter is pending in the Court.

Consumption of pulses

3343. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that per capita consumption of pulses has been falling alarmingly during the last five years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what are the reasons for such fall;

(d) what is the total demand of the pulses in the country; and

(e) the steps being taken to meet the ever-growing demand of pulses?